# DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION STATE OF GEORGIA

### INTERDEPARTMENT CORRESPONDENCE

FILE:

CSSTP-0007-00(999) Forsyth

**OFFICE:** Engineering Services

P.I. No.: 0007999

SR 141/Bethelview Road at SR 9

DATE:

November 10, 2009

FROM:

Ronald E. Wishon, Project Review Engineer AEW

TO:

Bobby Hilliard, PE, State Program Delivery Engineer

Attn.: Vinesha Pegram

IMPLEMENTATION OF VALUE ENGINEERING STUDY ALTERNATIVES SUBJECT:

The VE Study for the above project was held September 14-17, 2009. Initial responses were received on October 29, 2009. Recommendations for implementation of Value Engineering Study Alternatives are indicated in the table below. The Project Manager shall incorporate the VE alternatives recommended for implementation to the extent reasonable in the design of the project.

ALT#	Description	Potential Savings/LCC	Implement	Comments
ROW-1	Connect to Old SR 141 using a driveway opening in lieu of full depth roadway pavement at Sta. 3+635	\$279,813	Yes	This "road" is actually a driveway. It is reasonable to design the access to SR 9 as a commercial driveway, which will reduce construction and ROW costs.
ROW-3	Use an alternate retaining wall to protect the transmission pole at Parcel 157 and restrict encroachment on the property	\$372,033	Yes	This will be done. This will eliminate some of the impacts to the gas station as well as reduce ROW costs.

P-1	Delete pavement for one left turn lane on SB Bethelview Road	\$24,164	No	The intersection of SR 9 and SR 141/Bethelview Road is located only 600 feet from the GA 400 ramps. In order to keep the ramps clear and prevent vehicles from backing up onto GA 400, signal priority will be given to the through lanes on SR 141. For this reason, all other movements will have less green time than normal. This will lead to longer queues; therefore, dual left turn lanes on the approach will help accommodate the additional queued vehicles.
P-2	Delete pavement for one left turn lane on WB SR 9	\$34,521	No	See response for P-1.
P-3/ ROW-2	Use 3.3 m lanes in lieu of 3.6 m lanes on SR 9 east of the intersection and move the right of way line at the BP Station to the north	\$435,542	Yes	This will be done. The urban surroundings of this project along with the high ROW cost and low truck volumes make using 3.3 m lanes a reasonable decision.
P-4	Use 3.3 m through lanes on Bethelview Road north of the intersection	\$151,155	Yes	This will be done. The urban surroundings of this project along with the high ROW cost and low truck volumes make using 3.3 m lanes a reasonable decision.
G-1/ ROW-4	Balance Cut/Fill along Bethelview from Sta. 30+900 to Sta. 31+300	\$348,650	Yes	This will be done. Revising the profile will reduce the cut and reduce the project footprint resulting in both construction and ROW savings.
D-1	Use HDPE pipe in lieu of RCP for all storm drains	\$94,361	No	GDOT does not have enough historical bid data available to determine that there would be an actual cost savings with HDPE pipe. In cases where several types of pipe are included in the allowable pipe materials chart, Contractors will choose the most economical pipe; therefore, requiring HDPE would be unnecessary. Many Contractors are not comfortable with the unique requirements for HDPE installation which could create problems on construction.

## CSSTP-0007-00(999) Forsyth Implementation of Value Engineering Study Alternatives

P.I. No. 0007999 Page 3

Additional information was provided on November 6, 2009.

The Office of Engineering Services concurs with the Project Manager's responses.

Approved:

Gerald M. Ross, PE, Chief Engineer

Date:

REW/LLM

Attachments

Ben Buchan

Mary Murray - FHWA Kentucky Division

Bobby Hilliard/Stanley Hill/Vinesha Pegram

Brent Story/Jim Simpson/David Acree/Sam Woods/Robert Elam

Emmanuella Myrthil

Randall Davis

Michelle Brock

Ken Werho

Lisa Myers

Matt Sanders

# DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION STATE OF GEORGIA

### INTERDEPARTMENT CORRESPONDENCE

OFFICE: Program Delivery

**DATE:** October 27, 2009

FILE:

CSSTP-0007-00(999)

P.I. No. 0007999

SR 141/Bethelview Road @

SR 9 Intersection Improvement

Bobby Hilliard, PE, State Program Delivery Engineer

TO:

FROM:

Ronald E. Wishon, State Project Review Engineer

Attn: Matt Sanders

Value Engineering Study - Responses to Recommendations SUBJECT:

This Office has reviewed and considered suggestions presented in the Value Engineering (VE) Report submitted by the Office of Engineering Services and prepared by Lewis & Zimmerman Associates. Recommendations for implementation of the VE Study alternates are listed below, organized by sections in the same manner as the VE Report.

### RICHT-OF-WAY

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ALTERNATE:	ROW-1
Description:	Connect to Old SR 141 using a driveway opening in lieu of full-depth roadway pavement at Sta. 3+635
Cost Savings:	\$279,813
Implementation:	The Office of Road Design recommends this alternative be implemented.
Discussion:	This "road" is currently functioning as a driveway, as the ROW has been turned back over to the property owners by Forsyth County. It is reasonable to design the access to SR 9 as a commercial driveway, which will reduce construction and ROW costs.

ALTERNATE:	ROW-3
Description:	Use an alternative retaining wall to protect the transmission pole at Parcel 157
	and restrict encroachment on the property.
Cost Savings:	\$372,033
Implementation:	The Office of Road Design recommends this alternative be implemented.
Discussion:	An alternative retaining wall will be constructable with fewer impacts to the gas station property. This will reduce ROW costs.

### **PAVEMENT**

ALTERNATE:	P-1
Description:	Delete pavement for one left turn lane on southbound Bethelview Road and increase median width.
Cost Savings:	\$24,164
Implementation:	The Office of Road Design recommends this alternative not be implemented.
Discussion:	The intersection of SR 9 and SR 141/Bethelview is located only 600 feet from the GA-400 ramps. The close proximity to the GA-400 interchange requires that this signal be included in an interconnecting system. The priority of this system will be given to the through lanes on SR 141 in order to keep the ramps clear and prevent vehicles from backing up on to GA-400. For this reason, all other movements for this signal will have less green time than a normal intersection. Less green time will lead to longer queues than typical; dual lefts on this approach will help accommodate the additional queued vehicles. The cost savings for this alternate will be outweighed by the resulting effects of a single turn left turn lane in this location.

ALTERNATE:	P-2
Description:	Delete pavement for one left turn lane on westbound SR 9 and increase median width.
Cost Savings:	\$34,521
Implementation:	
Discussion:	The reasoning provided for not implementing alternate P-1 also applies to P-2.

ALTERNATE:	P-3 / ROW-2
Description:	Use 3.3-meter-wide lanes in lieu of 3.6-meter-wide lanes on SR 9 east of the intersection and move the right-of-way line at the BP gasoline station to the north
Cost Savings:	\$435,542
Implementation:	The Office of Road Design recommends this alternative be implemented.
Discussion:	The urban surroundings of this project along with the high ROW cost and low truck volumes make using 3.3-meter lanes a reasonable decision. This will reduce construction and ROW costs.

ALTERNATE:	P-4
Description:	Use 3.3-meter-wide lanes in lieu of 3.6-meter-wide lanes on Bethelview Road north of the intersection.
Cost Savings:	\$151,155
Implementation:	The Office of Road Design recommends this alternative be implemented.
Discussion:	The reasoning provided for implementing alternate P-3 also applies to P-4.

### **GRADING**

ALTERNATE:	G-1 / ROW-4
Description:	Balance the cut-and-fill grading on Bethelview Road from Sta. 30+900 to Sta. 31+300 by raising the roadway profile and avoid impacts to Parcel #155.
Cost Savings:	\$348,650
Implementation:	The Office of Road Design recommends this alternative be implemented.
Discussion:	Revising the profile of SR 141/Bethelview road will reduce the cut, and reduce the project footprint. This will result in construction and ROW cost savings.

### DRAINAGE

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ALTERNATE:	D-1
Description:	Use HDPE pipe in lieu of precast concrete pip for all storm water drainage
to design the factor of the second street and the second s	lines.
Cost Savings:	\$94,361
Implementation:	The Office of Road Design recommends this alternative not be implemented.
Discussion:	The materials for all pipe (storm drain, cross drain, side drain, etc.) installations will be governed by the results of the soil survey. No pipe material will be specified in the construction plans. The system design will be based on concrete pipe, but the contractor will have the option of using any pipe material allowed by the soil survey (chart summary of allowable materials will be provided in the project general notes).

5.H. BKH:SH:VCP

### Myers, Lisa

Subject:

FW: PI#0007999 VE - HDPE pipe recommendation

Please see the information below as clarification as to why we are not recommending not specifying the use of HDPE on this project. Also, it is my understanding that you have received a half sized copy of the cover sheet.

If you should have any additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thanks.

Vinesha C. Pegram, P.E. Associate Project Manager Office of Program Delivery 404-631-1587 404-631-1588 (fax)

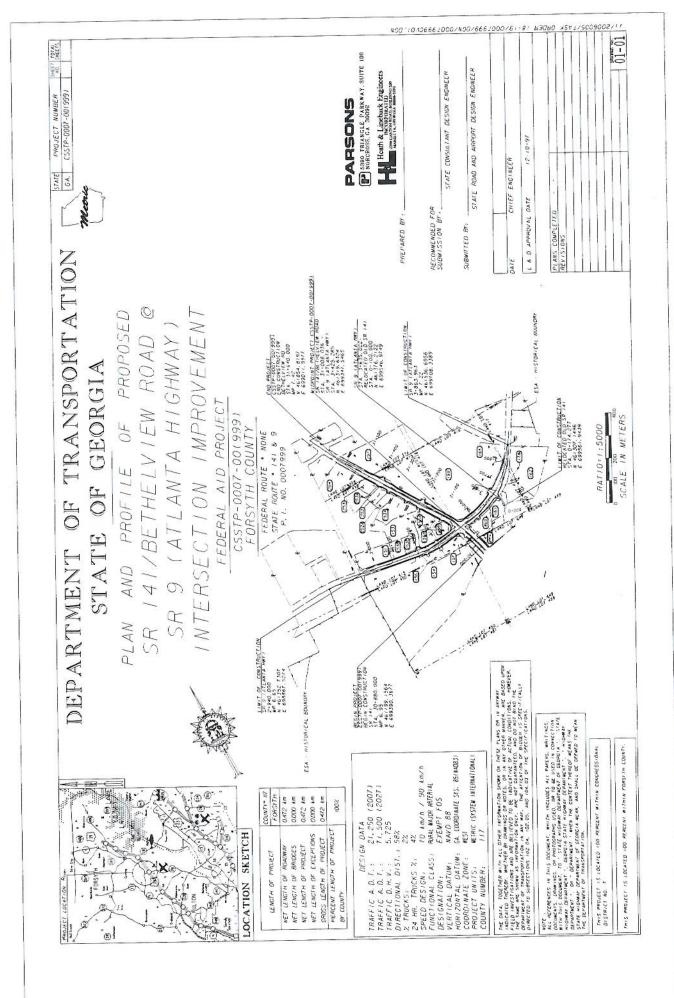
The FHWA's policy for pipe culvert selection requires the State DOTs to consider all available pipe products that are judged to be of satisfactory quality and equally acceptable on the basis of engineering and economic analyses. For GDOT projects, the engineering analysis results in the allowable pipe materials chart. The economic basis for pipe selection results from the contractor competitively bidding their best price for pipe. These conditions seem to meet the requirements of FHWA's policy.

FHWA's policy also states that "where alternative products are determined to have different engineering and economic properties, contracting agencies may select a specific material or product based on the required engineering properties and/or life cycle cost criteria". GDOT does not have any data available to perform a true economic analysis or life cycle cost of culvert materials. As the VE alternate recommends in the discussion section, "to keep prices competitive, GDOT might consider bidding pipes with either RCP or HDPE material". This would allow GDOT to examine a history of specified pipe material prices from a variety of contractors on a variety of projects. Perhaps then a change in policy would be reasonable.

Currently, GDOT bids storm drain pipe without any material specified. This allows the contractor to elect the pipe material which will result in the most competitive bid. The VE recommendation assumes that HDPE pipe will always give more value to the project based on straight unit prices. Without a bid history, it is not fair to say that this will always be the case. A contractor may have a relationship with a concrete pipe manufacturer which could skew their price of concrete pipes. The contractor could have pipe stockpiled from an old job that could be used. There may be a concrete pipe plant 1 mile from the job, whereas HDPE may have a higher delivery cost. Specifying HDPE (or any other material) in the contract will eliminate all other options for the contractor, even if they could get a better price on a different material, thereby reducing the value to the project.

This is a relatively small intersection improvement project that is in final design phase. The drainage design has been complete. About 15% of the pipe on this project is for cross drains; HDPE pipe is specifically prohibited for this application in the allowable pipe materials chart. This reduces the quoted cost savings by the VE team to \$81,000. Bethelview Road (northern leg of this intersection) is a County Road that accounts for about 40% of the project length; Forsyth County prefers RCP for all pipe installations. For these reasons, we are recommending not specifying HDPE pipe in the contract, keeping the option with the contractor, allowing for more competitive bids.

Thanks, Sam Woods 404-631-1628



# PRECONSTRUCTION STATUS REPORT FOR PI:0007999

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